

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Art Unit NA  
Examiner Unknown

In Re: P. Venkat Rangan et al.  
Case: P3901C2  
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned  
Filed: 07/11/03  
Subject: Method and Apparatus for Providing and Maintaining  
a User-Interactive Portal System Accessible via  
Internet or other Switched-Packet-Network

To: The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir;

**Preliminary Amendment**

**In the specification:**

Please add the section entitled "Cross-Reference to Related Documents" beginning at line 8 as follows:

The present application is a continuation application of copending application 10/180,146, filed 06/25/2002, which is a continuation of US application 09/208,740, filed 12/08/1998, which issued as US Patent 6,412,073 on 06/25/2002, and which is incorporated herein in its entirety.